

DECORATIONS

I Foreign Decorations and Awards

The "Decorations Committee", which is chaired by Mr. Steele of the Department of Secretary of State and on which sit Mr. Berliss and Mrs. Corbet, administers the regulations which in effect state that no Canadian citizen may accept an award or decoration offered by a foreign government without the prior approval of the Canadian Government. Most foreign governments are aware of this and they usually bring such matters to the attention of the Canadian Government via Protocol Division. Occasionally, Canadian Missions may forward information.

- (a) Requests are forwarded directly to the Decorations Committee together with a covering letter in which a recommendation of Protocol Division may or may not appear as decided by Mr. Cole.
- (b) The Committee may request additional information which is sought from the mission in Ottawa by means of an official Note.
- (c) Occasionally the foreign government may request the assistance of Protocol Division in making the physical arrangements for the presentation of the award. Estimates:
 - (a) above twice per month at 20 minutes each;
 - (b) above once per 6 months at 20 minutes;
 - (c) above is rare and may take several hours.

See file 22-114-Country.